REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Title of Publication: Secrets Of A Back-Alley ID Man

Other Known Title: Not Stated

Medium: Book

Director/Author: Sheldon Charrett

Producer/Publisher: Paladin Press

Country of Origin: United States

Language: English

Applicant: Comptroller of Customs

Distributor: Not Applicable

Classification: Objectionable.

Descriptive Note: Not Applicable

Display Conditions: Not Applicable

Date of entry in Register: 30 September 2008

Date of direction to issue a label: Not Applicable

OFLC No: 801509

Excisions: Not Applicable

Reasons for excisions:

Not Applicable

Summary of reasons for classification:

The book entitled *Secrets Of A Back-Alley ID Man* is classified as: Objectionable.

Secrets Of A Back-Alley ID Man is classified as objectionable due to the extent and degree to which, and the manner in which, the book promotes and encourages criminal activity.

The publication promotes and encourages the forgery of identity documents which is an offence under the Crimes Act 1961. It does this by giving detailed, practical and easy to follow instructions that would enable readers to construct their own counterfeit identity documents. Furthermore this information is presented in a manner which trivialises criminal offending. The publication does not deviate from its instructional tenor at any point. There is no substantive engagement with the legitimate debate which exists around privacy issues.

Having considered the Bill of Rights throughout the Office's application of the statutory criteria to this publication, and having identified the injuries to the public good that the availability of this publication is likely to create, it is apparent that injury to the public good is likely to result from the publication being made available to anyone, regardless of age. Although a classification of "objectionable" violates freedom of expression, it is the only classification that sufficiently reduces the risk presented by the availability of the publication.